

THE WILSON BULLETIN

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EDITORIAL

Our Annual Meeting is our only means of forming personal acquaintances that are so essential for the success of our organization. It affords the best means of getting in touch with the work that others are doing in the same field. It is a stimulus to both personal effort and coöperation in all lines of study. Your editor has enjoyed a continuous personal relationship with the organization during the thirty-five years of its history, and in that time most of his most valued friendships have been formed at the meetings. He therefore urges you, as a member, or as a reader, to make your plans to attend the Cincinnati meeting this year. You will find it very well worth while experience.

Bird Banding has come to occupy the forefront in aggressive work in bird study, partly because it is a new thing as it has developed under the leadership of Mr. Baldwin and those associated with him in trapping and banding. It is a field of endeavor that holds out enticements in the line of discoveries concerning bird movements of all sorts, individual traits, nesting habits, to mention but a few things. It may well point the way to intensive studies of individual birds in their perfect freedom of life. The writer is a firm believer in the value of intensive study of individual birds, such as that pursued with so much of great value by Miss Althea R. Sherman. There was so much of value in the intimate studies of the feeding of nestlings that it is a great pity that no more seems to be in progress. Much of the detail of such study might be omitted if the task seem too great, but as a method of study it is too valuable to be abandoned. We hope that the keen interest that is being manifested in banding operations may spill over into the general field of bird watching.